

ISM-158

LABORATORY PERSONNEL

JUNE 2004

SAFE HANDLING AND TRANSPORT OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- **Within your laboratory**
- **Within your building**
- **Between buildings at NCI-Frederick**

Handle all potentially hazardous materials, i.e., biological, chemical, or radiological, in a manner that prevents accidental splashes or spills. Biological materials include pathogenic and nonpathogenic agents and human or animal cell lines or tissues.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MOVED WITHIN A LABORATORY

- Carry containers in racks, trays, or pans.
- Seal tubes with Parafilm or a tight-fitting cap to contain the contents.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MOVED WITHIN A BUILDING

- Place the primary container in a suitable secondary container (a sealed plastic tub or tray with a tight fitting lid works well).

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MOVED BETWEEN BUILDINGS

- Place hazardous materials upright in a suitable secondary container with caps or lids tightly closed.
- If the chemicals are highly toxic, potential carcinogens, or highly reactive, place them in a nonbreakable, impermeable, tightly closed secondary container that will completely contain all liquids or solids if the primary container leaks or breaks.
- Take care to properly cushion the contents and not overload either the primary or secondary container.
- Radioactive materials must be contained and transported to prevent any release of radioactivity.

- When transporting biological materials within the facility primary receptacles may be glass, metal or plastic. The primary receptacle shall be placed in secondary container. The secondary packaging, containing the primary receptacle, may then be wrapped in absorbent material, prior to placement in the transport container, to ensure minimal risk of breakage during transport. The transport container must be sealable and break-resistant. Transport containers must be marked durably and legibly, with the name and telephone number of a person responsible for the material, and with applicable warning labels. In the event of an exposure due to the breakage or spill of biological materials in transport, call the Biological Safety Office at x5918.
- Clearly mark all outer containers as to contents, e.g., "Biological Specimen" or "Biohazard".

Take these extra steps to prevent accidental splashes and spills. You may be preserving your research and your researchers!

If you have any questions, please call EHS at x1451.